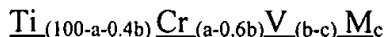


AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph bridging pages 12 and 13, beginning at page 12, line 33, as follows:

Further, although element V has an atomic weight approximately equivalent to that of Ti or Cr and is precious, even a large quantity of its substituent leads to a less increase in molecular weight for alloy products whereby there is a ~~practicable value, i.e., at the Cr level of 20 to 80~~ at% an advantage that an amount of occluded hydrogen per unit weight will not be reduced much. In contrast, since Mo and W each have a great BCC structure-forming property to Ti-Cr binary alloys, the admixture of Mo and/or W with the Ti-Cr binary alloy is effective in facilitating the formation of BCC in alloy products. However, an excessive admixture of Mo and W will lead to a decrease in hydrogen adsorption and storage characteristics because of heavy elements each having a large atomic weight. Hence, to make better use of both the advantages, a novel composition is invented wherein part of precious V is replaced with Mo and/or W, i.e., an alloy composition of the following fundamental formula:



wherein $20 \leq a \text{ (at \%)} \leq 80$, $0 \leq b \text{ (at \%)} \leq 10$, $0 \leq c \text{ (at \%)} < 5$, and M is at least one element selected from Mo and W, is greatly practicable in view of its cost and its occluded hydrogen quantity as well as its BCC structure-forming capability. As before, the admixture of substituent element T with such a composition is also effective in adjusting the plateau pressure wherein T is at least one or more elements selected from the group consisting of Nb, Ta, Mn, Fe, Al, B, C, Co, Cu, Ga, Ge, Ln (various lanthanoid metals), N, Ni, P and Si.

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